

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (withdrawn): Process for generating glucosamine from plants comprising the steps of drying fresh plants or plant extract to temperature below 110 °C for less than one week.

Claim 2 (withdrawn): Process according to claim 1 wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of Cichorium, Daucus, Helianthus and Beta.

Claim 3 (currently amended): Product obtained by a process for generating glucosamine from plants, wherein the product comprises an effective amount of at least one raw plant material selected from the group consisting of *Daucus*, *Helianthus*, *Beta* and combinations thereof, the plant material being processed to obtain glucosamine in an amount greater than 150 mg/kg dry matter, and wherein the process comprises the steps of drying fresh or raw plants or plant extract to a temperature below 110 °C for less than one week.

Claim 4 (withdrawn): A method for the manufacture of a medicine for the prevention, treatment and/or alleviation of metabolic disorders of the osteo-articular tissues and/or the maintenance of joint health in mammals comprising the steps of using glucosamine obtained from drying fresh plants or plant extracts for less than one week.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): The method of claim 4 wherein the metabolic disorders is selected from the group consisting of arthritis, osteoarthritis, and associated disorders.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): The method of claim 4 wherein medicine improves mobility and/or quality of life of a mammal.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): A method for the manufacture of a cosmetic composition to improve skin quality, and prevention or restoration of age-related alterations of skin is related to the exfoliation of the skin comprising the steps of using glucosamine obtained from drying fresh plants or plant extracts for less than one week.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): A method for treating disorders of the osteo-articular tissue or joints of a mammal comprising the steps of orally administering a composition containing glucosamine generated from plant materials through a drying process.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): Method according to claim 8 wherein the composition contains as an active ingredient an effective amount of at least one plant raw material selected and processed for its content in glucosamine, or plant extract, or pure glucosamine derived from the said plant raw material or a mixture of glucosamine and other compounds derived from the said plant raw material.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): Method according to claim 8 wherein the composition contains as an active ingredient at least one plant or derived-plant extract having at least 150 mg glucosamine/kg dry weight of plant material.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): Method according to claim 8 wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of Cichorium, Daucus, Helianthus and Beta.

Claim 12 (withdrawn): Method according to claim 8 wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of Chicory (*Cichorium intybus*), carrot (*Daucus carota*), Jerusalem artichoke (*Helianthus tuberosum*), and beet (*Beta vulgaris*).

Claim 13 (withdrawn): Method according to claim 8 wherein glucosamine is in form of free glucosamine.

Claim 14 (currently amended): An orally ingestible composition or cosmetic composition in a form selected from the group consisting of food products, beverages, nutritional supplements, medicines, pills, tablets, nutritionally complete diets, gels, ointments, salves, lotions, sprays, bandages, creams, balms, milks, foaming products, and combinations thereof comprising an effective amount of at least one raw plant material selected from the group consisting of *Daucus*, *Helianthus*, *Beta* and combinations thereof, the plant material being processed by a drying process to obtain glucosamine ~~obtained by drying a fresh or raw plant material, wherein the glucosamine is present in the orally ingestible composition or cosmetic composition~~ in an amount greater than 150 mg/kg dry matter.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A skin or hair care product comprising an effective amount of at least one raw plant material that is processed by a drying process to obtain glucosamine ~~obtained by drying a fresh or raw plant material, wherein the glucosamine is present in the product~~ in an amount greater than 150 mg/kg dry matter.

Claim 16 (withdrawn): Process for generating glucosamine of claim 1 wherein the fresh plants or plant extract are dried at a temperature below 110 °C between 5 and 50 h.

Claim 17 (withdrawn): Process for generating glucosamine of claim 1 wherein the fresh plants or plant extract are dried at a temperature below 92 °C between 5 and 50 h.

Claim 18 (withdrawn): A method for the prevention, treatment and/or alleviation of metabolic disorders of the osteo-articular tissues and/or the maintenance of joint health in mammals comprising the steps of administering to a patient in need of same a composition comprising glucosamine derived from dried plant material.

Claim 19 (currently amended): An orally ingestible composition comprising an effective amount of at least one raw plant material selected from the group consisting of *Daucus*, *Helianthus*, *Beta* and combinations thereof, the plant material being processed by a drying process to obtain glucosamine ~~generated from fresh or raw plant materials through a drying process, wherein the glucosamine is present in the composition~~ in an amount greater than 150 mg/kg dry matter.